

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

November 8, 2002

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT AND
PETITION TO INITIATE
INVESTIGATION

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE
Petition to Initiate Proceedings for an
Investigation Concerning Central Maine
Power Company's Intent to Construct A
Transmission Line in Southern York County

Docket No. 2002-650

LAURIE DOWNS, ET AL v. CENTRAL
MAINE POWER COMPANY
Request for Commission Investigation Into
the New Central Maine Power Company
Transmission Line Proposal for Eliot, Kittery,
and York

Docket No. 2002-665

On October 31, 2002, the Commission received a complaint pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1302 from Laurie A. Downs and nine other CMP customers and residents of the Town of York. The complainants ask the Commission to open an investigation of CMP's proposed new 69 KV transmission line to be built from the Bolt Hill substation in Eliot to the York Harbor substation in York. The complainants allege that CMP has failed to respond to numerous inquiries about the new transmission line, including the need for the line, environmental, aesthetic, and safety concerns related to the line, and alternative routes for the line. The complainants ask for an investigation that compels CMP to answer these questions and concerns and to consider alternatives that do not require construction of the new transmission line.

On October 25, 2002, the Public Advocate filed a Petition to Initiate Proceedings. In his Petition, the Public Advocate asks the Commission to initiate proceedings "to review, investigate and take appropriate action" with respect to CMP's plan to build the 69 KV transmission line described above. The investigation is warranted because, in his view, CMP proposes to build the line in residential neighborhoods, will not be able to exercise eminent domain and has not demonstrated that it considered conservation or distributed generation as an alternative to the new line.

The Administrative Director has examined the 10-person complaint and has determined that its allegations are within the purview of section 1302 and that it conforms to Chapter 110 of the Commission's Rules. CMP has already been served with a copy of the complaint. By this Notice, CMP is directed to file an answer to the complaint within 10 days.

As the Public Advocate's Petition pertains to the same subject matter as the complaint, CMP also is directed to file an answer to the Public Advocate's petition within 10 days of this Notice. CMP may file one answer in response to both the complaint and the Public Advocate's Petition. If CMP files only one answer, the Company should file the answer with both docket numbers on it.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 8th day of November, 2002.

BY ORDER OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Dennis L. Keschl